

Provisional Vital Statistics for March 2008

Live births decreased in March as 6,665 Missouri babies were born compared with 6,850 one year earlier. However, cumulative births for the 3- and 12-month periods ending with March both increased.

Deaths increased for all three time periods shown below. For the first quarter of the year, deaths increased by 10.3 percent from 14,492 to 15,989.

The **Natural increase** for March was 1,221 (6,665 births minus 5,444 deaths). For each of the three time periods shown below, the natural increase declined.

Marriages decreased for all three time periods. For the 12 months ending with March, marriages decreased by 1.3 percent.

Dissolutions of marriage also decreased for all three time periods. For the 12 months ending with March, the marriage to divorce ratio decreased from 1.82 to 1.81.

Infant deaths decreased for all three time periods shown below. For the 12 months ending with March, the infant death rate decreased from 7.5 to 7.2 per 1,000 live births.

PROVISIONAL VITAL STATISTICS FOR March 2008

| <u>Item</u> | <u>March</u> | | | | <u>Jan.-Mar. Cumulative</u> | | | | <u>12 months ending with March</u> | | | | |
|--|---------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| | <u>Number</u> | | <u>Rate*</u> | | <u>Number</u> | | <u>Rate*</u> | | <u>Number</u> | | <u>Rate*</u> | | |
| | <u>2007</u> | <u>2008</u> | <u>2007</u> | <u>2008</u> | <u>2007</u> | <u>2008</u> | <u>2007</u> | <u>2008</u> | <u>2007</u> | <u>2008</u> | <u>2006</u> | <u>2007</u> | <u>2008</u> |
| Live Births | 6,850 | 6,665 | 13.7 | 13.3 | 19,671 | 19,788 | 13.6 | 13.4 | 81,395 | 82,004 | 13.7 | 13.9 | 13.9 |
| Deaths | 4,827 | 5,444 | 9.7 | 10.9 | 14,492 | 15,989 | 10.0 | 10.9 | 54,209 | 55,431 | 9.4 | 9.3 | 9.4 |
| Natural increase | 2,023 | 1,221 | 4.3 | 2.4 | 5,179 | 3,799 | 3.7 | 2.6 | 27,186 | 26,573 | 4.3 | 4.6 | 4.5 |
| Marriages | 2,757 | 2,381 | 5.9 | 4.7 | 6,372 | 5,855 | 4.5 | 4.0 | 40,430 | 39,888 | 7.0 | 6.9 | 6.8 |
| Dissolutions | 1,960 | 1,775 | 4.2 | 3.5 | 5,220 | 5,014 | 3.7 | 3.7 | 22,215 | 22,017 | 3.7 | 3.8 | 3.7 |
| Infant deaths | 55 | 39 | 8.0 | 5.9 | 162 | 142 | 8.2 | 7.2 | 614 | 593 | 7.4 | 7.5 | 7.2 |
| Population base (in thousands) | ... | ... | 5,878 | 5,920 | ... | ... | 5,878 | 5,920 | ... | ... | 5,800 | 5,847 | 5,888 |

* Rates for live births, deaths, natural increase, marriages and dissolutions are computed on the number per 1000 estimated population. The infant death rate is based on the number of infant deaths per 1000 live births. Beginning with provisional July 2006 data numbers and rates are based on month of event rather than month of report. This will result in a delay in reporting, but will more accurately reflect current trends.

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